Reviewer's report

Title: Oral Health-related Cultural Beliefs for four racial/Ethnic Groups: Assessment of the Literature

Version: 2 Date: 16 October 2007

Reviewer: Aubrey Sheiham

Reviewer's report:

This paper addresses a relatively neglected area of dental research. Whereas the abstract is concise and addresses the main objective of the paper, the paper itself contains much extraneous material, some of which reads like a student project.

The question posed by the authors is new and quite well defined. Methods are appropriate and well described and appear to be sound. Manuscript needs considerable editing (see below).

Discussion

Title is acceptable and abstract is good except for conclusions. The conclusions are recommendations and they should be deleted.

Major Compulsory Revisions:

Abstract: Conclusions should relate to findings. Those given are recommendations.
Delete: Opening paragraph, page 5.
Delete: last sentence of para 2 page 5. In the case...
Delete: first sentence of para 3 page 5. The concept..
Delete: para 2 page 6. Worldwide, there are.

Results section should be re-organised. Start results with paragraph they have but then go straight on to Page 19 paragraph starting with Each piece reviewed exhibited … and then go on to the sections on Quantity, Lack of conceptual clarity, limited methods topical content. By cutting and pasting those sections in to earlier part of results allows them to go on to what they have on pages 11 onwards.

Discussion. Delete first paragraph.
Discussion. Most of the discussion is about implications for
future research. I do not consider that this should be included in this paper. Discussion should be about the results. So delete all the paragraphs on implications.

**What next?:** Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions

**Level of interest:** An article of limited interest

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

'I declare that I have no competing interests'